U.S. Patent and Trademark Office PTOL-37 (Rev. 7-05) SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record disclose a tumbling apparatus comprising a substantially hollow tumbling drum supported on a base frame, a substantially cylindrical and longitudinally extending first sizing ring member, a substantially cylindrical and longitudinally extending second sizing ring member, a power drive means, a loading means, and a tumbling drum tilt means. However, the prior art of record does not disclose or render obvious all of the details of the limitations of independent claim and, in particular, a tumbling apparatus with a a feed conveyor having infeed and outfeed ends, wherein the feed conveyor is supported on the base frame for longitudinally forward movement of the outfeed end of the conveyor into registry with the interior of the ring members.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason Y. Pahng whose telephone number is 571 272 4522. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM, Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Derris Banks can be reached on 571 272 4419. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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